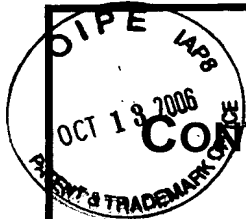


RCE  
+ *[Handwritten initials]*

(MODIFIED) PTO/SB/30 (08-00)  
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/669,884
Filing Date	24 September 2003
First Named Inventor	Bradley W. SMITH
Group Art Unit	3616
Examiner Name	Eric D. Culbreth
Attorney Docket Number	AAI-14305

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submitted

- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed

- i. ☒ Amendment/reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declarations
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-3550

- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☒ Other any deficiency in the enclosed fee

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 790.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Nick C. Kottis	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	31,974
Signature	<i>Nick C. Kottis</i>	Date	09 October 2006

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Comm. for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Nick C. Kottis	Date	09 October 2006
Signature	<i>Nick C. Kottis</i>		

SEND FEES and completed forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Customer No.: 45483

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